Waste

1. What happens to waste that is produced in a natural ecosystem?
2. What is the **waste stream**?
3. Briefly describe each of these components of the waste stream:
   1. Agricultural waste:
   2. Mining Waste:
   3. Industrial Waste:
   4. Municipal Solid Waste:
4. What is **biodegradable waste?**
5. What is **non-degradable waste?**
6. What is the largest portion of U.S. municipal solid waste by weight?
7. What is an **open dump**?
   1. Why are open dumps illegal in most developed countries?
8. What is the purpose of the clay and plastic lining at the bottom of **sanitary landfills**?
9. Landfills have been the most popular solution for solid waste. Why are they becoming more expensive?
10. What is **incineration?**
    1. How much does incineration reduce the volume of waste?
    2. What are **tipping fees**? How do they compare to those of landfills?
11. What is **refuse-derived fuel?**
12. What is **mass burn** incineration?
    1. What are the environmental problems with mass burn?
13. Describe the four benefits to **recycling**?







1. What are the potential problems with recycling?
2. Define **composting** –
3. What is the cheapest and most effective way of dealing with waste?
4. What is **integrated waste management**?
5. List the waste management strategies, beginning with the preferred (top).











**Hazardous Waste**

1. What are the five criteria used to identify **hazardous waste**?











1. What changes to hazardous waste disposal occurred as a result of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976?
2. Describe what the CERCLA or “Superfund” law does.
3. What have countries that signed the **Basel Convention** agreed to do?
4. Give an example of **high-level nuclear waste** and **low-level nuclear waste.**
5. What does it mean to have a half-life?
6. Where are depleted fuel rods stored initially? Where are they now placed long-term?